

BADGER STATE

SMOKE SIGNALS

SERVING AMATEUR RADIO IN WISCONSIN

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Roy Pederson, K9FHI
Silent Microphone

by Rich Regent, K9GDF

Roy A. Pederson, K9FHI, passed away on December 3, 2008, from lung cancer at the age of 84. Born November 13, 1924, he was a resident of Juneau in Dodge County, and had treasured his long retirement from working as an Electrician. He was a well known Radio Amateur first licensed in 1961 as Novice KN9FHI. His wife, Beryl, KA9BAC (Extra Class), and sons Gary, KA9BAE (Extra Class) and Michael, N9QMV (Technician Class), made the Pedersens an all-ham family.

K9FHI (Extra Class) was ARRL Section Manager for Wisconsin from 1973 through 1984 and 1996 to 1999, and at times was the Assistant Section Manager as well. Roy combined camping, his other favorite hobby, with travels to visit Wisconsin Hamfests, Swapfests and Wisconsin Nets Association meetings promoting Amateur Radio and the ARRL. He could be easily found wearing his bright red cap and jacket.

K9FHI was active on most of the Wisconsin phone nets and loved to be a Net Control and handle traffic. He volunteered as an Assistant EC for the Dodge County ARES, qualified as a QCWA Member and enjoyed visiting local Chapter 55 events. Roy also held the Official Relay Station and Official Emergency Station ARRL Appointments.

On a cold January 13, 1994, Roy and his wife Beryl, KA9BAC, passed their advanced class amateur radio license exams together. They started their license classes in November 1993, with WA9ZTY as their instructor. A few classes were canceled during winter blizzards and snow packed roads made travel to a few other classes impossible. So they stayed home and used their computer and a study program on diskette with sample questions.



Picture from WARAC HAMTRIX

Roy figures that he reviewed the pool of 500 questions until he had scrutinized all of them. Beryl practiced using the same method until they both averaged about 95 percent test scores. "We sat in opposite corners of the exam room, yet each of us had 8 questions wrong," Roy said. We'll never know if they had the same questions wrong though.

The Pedersens were active in the Rock River Radio Club where Roy was chosen as the 1995 Ham of the Year. Roy had been a member of the club since he received his first license and served as an officer in various capacities. He was General Chairman of the club's annual Field Day and Beryl provided the refreshing hospitality tent and delicious food. They both were members of the club's ARRL Volunteer Exam Team and served as

(Continued on page 7)

2009 Wisconsin QSO Party
March 15, 2009 from 1800Z to 0100Z March 16
(1:00PM CDT to 8:00PM CDT)

The official rules, forms and other information is available at
<http://www.warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm>

We hope to hear you on the bands.

Ten Reasons Why *You* Should Operate in the
Wisconsin QSO Party

By Fred Helmstetter, N9FH

This year's running of the WIQP is right around the corner. Some people are sure to get on every year and always have a blast. Other hams either occasionally participate or have never given the WIQP a try. Here are ten good reasons why you should fire up the radio on March 15th, 2009 (1:00PM local time) and join in the fun.

It might be best to start off with a short description of what the WIQP is. This is our state "QSO party" in which hams try to contact as many other stations as possible during the contest period (7 hours on Sunday afternoon and evening in our case). Lots of other states have similar events but ours is one of the best in terms of in-state and out-of-state activity. During

(Continued on page 7)

Flipping the pages

K9FHI, silent key	1
Wisconsin QSO Party	1
What's Happening, Swapfests	2
What's Happening, Club Meetings	2
Wisconsin Nets Association	4
WNA meeting minutes	5
The Computer Corner, Stan Kaplan	5
Monthly Wisconsin Section Manager News	6
BSSS CD ROM	8
What's Happening, The Test Point - VE examinations.....	9
NEWDXA	10
Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club.....	11
ELMER	12



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Swapfests and Other Social Events — Club Meetings Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901 — kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net

Swapfests And Other Social Events

February 21, 2009. WeLCARS Tech-Fest. Fox Lake Community Center, [23 South Street](http://www.welcars.org), Fox Lake, IL. Western Lake County Amateur Radio Society. <http://www.welcars.org> Talk-In: 145.41- (PL 107.2). Contact: Joe Serocki, N9IFG, 35144 Sheridan Drive, Ingleside, IL 60041. Phone: 847-556-3500. Fax: 847-443-4332. Email: joese-rocki@gmail.com

March 08, 2009. Sterling Rock Falls Amateur Radio Society. Challand Middle School, [1700 6th Avenue](http://www.sterlinghamfest.com), Sterling, IL. <http://www.sterlinghamfest.com> Talk-In: 146.85 (PL 114.8), Contact: Lloyd Sherman, KB9APW, 25873 Capp Road, Sterling, IL 61081 Phone: 815-336-2434, Email: lsherman@essex1.com

March 14, 2009 20th Annual Ham Equipment Auction, Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. Grace Lutheran Church, [202 West Grand Avenue](http://www.ecarc.org/auction.html), Eau Claire, WI. <http://www.ecarc.org/auction.html> Talk-In: 146.910 (PL 110.9), Contact: Jim Staatz, KI9H, 2939 Moon Avenue, Apt. 1, Eau Claire, WI 54703-1046. Phone: 715-415-1150 Email: KI9H@arri.net

March 15, 2009. Wisconsin QSO Party. West Allis Radio Amateur Club. <http://www.warac.org/wqp>

March 15, 2009. W9MQB Hamfest 2009. Tri-County ARC (W9MQB). Jefferson County Fairgrounds Activity Center, [503 North Jackson Avenue](http://www.cmdline.com/tcarc/), Jefferson, WI. <http://www.cmdline.com/tcarc/> Talk-In: 145.49 (PL 123). Contact: Paul Marowsky, KD9PM, PO Box 411, Johnson Creek, WI 53038. Phone: 920-674-4968. Email: hamfest@w9mqb.org

April 3-4 2009. AES Superfest 2009. Amateur Electronic Supply, [5710 West Good Hope Road](http://www.aesham.com/superfest.shtml), Milwaukee, WI. <http://www.aesham.com/superfest.shtml> Talk-In: 145.130/144.530 (PL 127.3). Contact: Ray Grenier, K9KHW, 5710 West Good Hope Road, Milwaukee, WI 53223. Phone: 414-881-3528. Fax: 414-358-3337. Email: rayk9khw@aol.com

April 18, 2009, Madison Area Repeater Association Swapfest, Stoughton, WI. Mandt Community Center, 400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI. Inquiries can be directed to: radiow9hsy@gmail.com or write to MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890, Tele:608.245.8890 For more information see the MARA website <http://www.qsl.net/mara/>

April 18, 2009. The Black River Amateur Radio Assn. Medford WI. We are having the 4th annual central Wisconsin swapfest at the

Colby WI, Lions Pavilion. For more information contact Bob at kb9blv@yahoo.com.

May 02, 2009. Spring Swapfest. Ozaukee Radio Club. <http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org> Talk-In: 146.97 (PL 127.3). Contact: Tom Nawrot, AA9XK10335 North Grasslyn Road, Mequon, WI 53092 Phone: 262-242-1029 or 800-698-6087 Email: tnawrot@wi.rr.com. Circle B Recreation Center, [State Hwy 60 & Ozaukee, Cty Hwy 1](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org), Cedarburg, WI

June 07, 2009. Starved Rock Radio Club, Bureau County Fairgrounds, [West Peru Street, \(US Routes 6 and 34\)](http://www.qsl.net/w9mks/hamfest.htm), Princeton, IL. <http://www.qsl.net/w9mks/hamfest.htm> Talk-In: 146.955- (PL 103.5). Contact: James Clapp, KC9FGU, 921 North 24th Road, Oglesby, IL 61348. Phone: 815-481-6117. Fax: 815-646-4362. Email: starvedrockhamfest@hotmail.com

June 21, 2009. Six Meter Club of Chicago DuPage County Fairgrounds. [2015 Manchester Road](http://www.k9ona.com), Wheaton, IL. <http://www.k9ona.com> Talk-In: 146.370/146.970 (PL 107.2) or 146.520- K9ONA. Contact: Michael Huedepohl, WD9GJK, 3532 Raymond Avenue, Brookfield, IL 60513. Phone: 708-485-5481. Email: mhuedepohl@comcast.net

July 11, 2009. South Milwaukee ARC, Swapfest 09. American Legion Park. Shepard Avenue •Oak Creek, WI. (414) 762-3235, Ask for Verne. P.O. Box 102, South Milwaukee, WI

53172. e-mail ryatex@aol.com

August 8, 2009. Circus City swapfest, Baraboo, WI.

August 15, 2009. Racine Megacycle Freefest 2009. Fireman's Park, [9600 Charles Street](http://www.w9udu.org), Sturtevant, WI. Racine Megacycle Club. <http://www.w9udu.org> Talk-In: 147.270 (no PL tone required). Contact: Bob Frederiksen, KB9ZAF, 4455 Spring Street, Racine, WI 53405. Phone: 262-637-6588. Email: kb9zaf@arri.net

September 12, 2009. ORC Fall Ham & Hobby Swapfest. Firemans Park, [W65 N796 Washington Avenue](http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org), Cedarburg, WI. Ozaukee Radio Club. <http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org> Talk-In: 146.97 (PL 127.3). Contact: Gabe Chido, W19GC, W58 N985 Essex Drive, Cedarburg, WI 53012. Phone: 262-377-2784 (summer) & 480-213-2467 (winter). Email: wi9gc@yahoo.com

September 12-13, 2009. Radio Expo 2009. Boone Co Fairgrounds. Chicago FM Club. <http://www.chicagofmclub.org> Talk-In: 146.76 (PL 107.2); 147.255+ (PL 114.8); 444.725+ (PL 118.8). Contact: Don W9DMW. e-mail: dwdolkowski@hotmail.com

September 18-19, 2009. W9DXCC Convention. Northern Illinois DX Association. Holiday Inn. [1000 Busse Road](http://www.w9dxcc.com) Elk Grove Village, IL. <http://www.w9dxcc.com> Talk-In: 147.36. Contact: Bill Smith, W9VA, 2635 Crestwood Lane, Riverwoods, IL 60015. Phone: 847-945-1564. Email: w9va@aol.com

September 19-20, 2009. Peoria Superfest 2009. Peoria Area Amateur Radio Club. Exposition Gardens, [1601 West Northmoor Road](http://www.Peoriasuperfest.com) Peoria, IL. <http://www.Peoriasuperfest.com> Talk-In: 147.075+ (PL 103.5). Contact: John Coker, N9FAM, 133 Vonachen Court, East Peoria, IL 61611. Phone: 309-369-7428. Email: n9fam@comcast.net

Further information about hamfests in the area can be found at [bsss.org](http://www.bsss.org) or at <http://www.arri.org/hamfests.html> If your organization is sponsoring a Hamfest/Swapfest and would like us to list your event, please send the information to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN at the address on page 2 or to k9en@arri.net

Check us out on the web
at <http://www.bsss.org>

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

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1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly) \$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month before the issue date. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to kb9csw@arri.net Dave Spearing, KB9CSW

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the

events date.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

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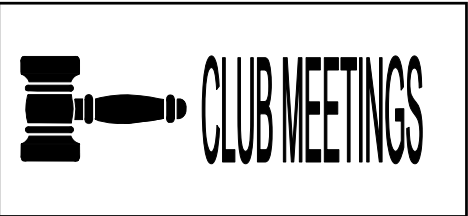
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Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.



Appleton
FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:00PM., Goodwill
Community Center, 1800 S. Appleton Road,
Menasha, WI. Information: Brian Long
KB9LRD fcarc@w9zl.org Website: <http://www.fcarc.us>

Baraboo
BADGERLAND AMATEUR TELEVISION
SOCIETY (BATS) Check BATS Web page:
<http://www.shopstop.net/BATS/>

Baraboo
YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB Meetings: See the YTARC column else-
where in this issue for meeting times and lo-
cations. For further information: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc>.

Dubuque, IA
GREAT RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: First Monday of each month, 7 p.m.
at the Red Cross Center, 2400 Asbury Road.
The club serves the tri-state area. On the Web:
<http://www.qsl.net/wb0lob/>. Information or
questions to: N0hdc@aol.com.

Eau Claire
EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday - 7 p.m., Eau Claire
Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave., Eau
Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests wel-
come. W9EAU repeater 146.91 MHz, tone
110.9 Hz. Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA,
President, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI
54702-1867. Phone (715) 838-9108, Email
kg9ra@ecarc.org. Web page: <http://www.ecarc.org>

Fond du Lac
FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Second Monday at Moraine Park
Technical College, Fond du Lac, WI. Time: 7
p.m. Sunday net: 7:30 p.m. CDT, K9IA re-
peater, 145.430 - PL 107.2 Information: Jack
Heil, KG9IN, 920.922.1413. Email:
kg9in@fdlhams.org Web: <http://www.fdlhams.org>.

Fort Atkinson
TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
second Thursday monthly except June, July,
August & December, 7 p.m., at Dwight Foster
Public Library in Fort Atkinson. ARES Net each
Wednesday evening at 8 and club net Monday
evenings at 8 on 145.49 repeater. Contact: Paul
Marowsky, KD9PM, 920-674-4968., or John
Satterlee, WA9SAB, 920.563.6381.

Germantown
WISCONSIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB,
INC. Meetings: Last Wednesdays at the Ger-
mantown police department in Germantown.
Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting time: 7:30 p.m.
Guests are welcome! We have a 440 repeater.
The freq is 442.875 + PI=127.3.

Grafton

Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC) Second Wednesday
of each month at 7:30 p.m. Grafton Multipur-
pose Senior Center, 1665 7th. Ave., Grafton,
Wisconsin www.qsl.net/orc/.

Green Bay
GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB Meet-
ings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Media Ser-
vices area of J. M. Science Building at St. Nor-
bert College in DePere. Information: Kevin at
kb9sne@yahoo.com.

Green Lake
GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Greater Green Lake County area. Meetings:
Third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Green Lake Town
Hall, intersection of County Highways K and N.

Houghton, MI area:
The CCRAA is the "Copper Country Radio
Amateur Association" and they hold meetings
the first Tuesday of each month at the Dollar
Bay Fire Hall. Summer meetings (June, July,
August, and September) are held at the CCRAA
Clubhouse in Osceola (2 mi. S. of Calumet, MI)

Hudson
St. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS:
Meetings: Third Monday of every month at 7:15
pm or immediately following the nets which
begin at 7:00 pm. A short business meeting is
held followed by a program. The club meets at
the St. Croix County Emergency Government
Center, 1101 Carmichael Road, Hudson WI. All
are welcome! Talkin and ARES/RACES re-
peater: 145.130 MHz, PL tone 110.9. The
ARES/RACES net is held every Monday eve-
ning at 7:00 pm immediately followed by the St.
Croix Valley Friendly Net also on 145.130. All
check-ins are welcome. Web site:
www.pressenter.com/~scvra/. Club repeater:
147.33 PL tone 110.9. For additional informa-
tion contact: Lou Greub, WB9PVA, Secretary.
e-mail: l.greub218pressenter.com

Hams and anyone interested in amateur
radio invited to Saturday morning breakfasts
(Dutch treat) at 7:45 AM. Location occasionally
changes. Contact Connie, KC9GYM,
E - m a i l
<<mailto:hellothere@pressenter.com>>hellothere<
<mailto:hellothere@pressenter.com>>@pressenter
.com

or phone (715) 386-2714 for current
week's location. Informal information exchange
or discussion group meetings usually held every
Thursday evening at the Hudson, WI City Li-
brary, 911 4th St., 6:30 - 8:30 PM., room 212.
Contact Connie for specific information.

Juneau
ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB Meetings: First
Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Dodge County Admini-
stration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau,
WI. ARES Nets: 146.64 (-600) Mondays, 7:30
p.m., Saturdays, 7278 KHZ, Alternate in 3.947
at 10:00 AM. & Wednesday, 1908 KHZ 8:00
PM, Wintertime.

La Crosse
Riverland Amateur Radio Club Meeting: First
Tuesday. Gundersen Clinic, 1900 South Ave.,
La Crosse, WI. Basement Conference Room 1.
Meeting at 7:00p.m. More information: <http://www.qsl.net/wr9arc> E-mail wr9arc@qsl.net
Sunday night net at 8:00 pm on 146.970.
Wednesday morning breakfast at 8:00 am at

Ardie's restaurant. Friday lunch at Hooters in
downtown La Crosse. <http://rarc.qth.com> E-
mail: wr9arc@rarc.qth.com

Madison
SPACE PLACE AMATEUR RADIO CENTER
No meetings. Located on U.W.-Madison cam-
pus. Guest operators are welcome to operate the
U.W. Space Place Amateur Radio Station,
N9UW. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG,
President, (608) 263-4685. Email:
n9uw@sal.wisc.edu.

Madison
BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY Uni-
versity of Wisconsin - Madison/W9YT Meet-
ings: Third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in UW Union
South. Room number posted on the Today in
The Union board. Information: Don Michalski,
W9IXG, (608) 263-4685. Email:
w9ixg@arrl.org. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/w9yt>.

Madison
Madison DX Club, meetings are on every sec-
ond Tuesday of each month; see [http://](http://madisondxclub)
madisondxclub for more details.

FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Meetings: Third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Red Cross
Building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Room C,
downstairs. First building west of Hill Farms
State Office Building.

Manitowoc
MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMA-
TEURS (ManCoRad) Second Wednesday of
each month. Club board meets at 6:30 p.m., and
Regular meeting is at 7:30 p.m., at 1105 Fleet-
wood Drive, 2nd floor (Old County Shop build-
ing on northwest side of city.) For Additional
information please see our club web-site
www.w9dk.com or contact Fred Neuenfeldt,
W6BSF, (920) 682-9312. Email: [fredand-](mailto:fredand-pat@lakefield.net)
pat@lakefield.net

Marinette WI
Menominee MI
Amateur Radio Club Meetings held second
Thursday 7:00PM each month Spies Public
Library, Menominee, MI Menominee Michigan
in the basement. Guests welcome. Website:
<http://w8pif.com>

Medford
Black River Amateur Radio Association Meet-
ings: Normally the first Thursday of each
month. Usual meeting time is 7 PM. Most meet-
ings are held at the Taylor County Courthouse.
Directions: Those attending should park in the
main courthouse parking lot on the east side of
the building, and enter using the main court-
house entrance or the sheriff's dept. entrance.
Proceed to the lower level of the courthouse
using the stairs or elevator. We meet in the
"break room" on the lower level, near the Emer-
gency Government office. Talk-in on the 147.15
repeater (114.8 Hz PL, +600 kHz offset) and
146.52 MHz simplex. Contact: Mike Schoen-
fuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI
54405. Phone: (715) 223-3996.

Menomonie WI
Saturday coffee at Burger King, 544 Main
Street, at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at
7:00 p.m. at the Depot, 2616 Hills Court, north
of Wal-Mart on highway 25 North, in January,
March, April, and September through Novem-

ber. Guests welcome!

Milwaukee
GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIA-
TION Meetings: Fourth Monday of month, 7:30
p.m. Contact any GMDXA member, or Gary
Schwartz, K9GS, (262) 363-4439. Email:
garyk9gs@arrl.net.

Milwaukee
MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB
Meetings: Last Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. Redemp-
tion Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair
Road, Wauwatosa, WI. Mailing address: P.O.
Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695.
Phone 414-332-MRAC. e-mail w9rh@arrl.net
Web: <http://www.w9rh.org> . Email:
w9rh@arrl.net.

Northeast Area
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSOCIA-
TION Meetings quarterly: April 28, Marinette;
August 25, Fox Valley; November 10, Green
Bay. For specific information about meetings,
check <http://home.new.rr.com/newdxa/>. Contact
us at w9dxa@arrl.net.

Oak Creek
SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB Meetings: First Wednesdays, Legion
Post #434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. In
March and October the meetings are turned into
Auction Nights.. The club WEB site is
www.qsl.net/wa9txe

Onalaska (see La Crosse)

QCWA Chapter 55
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSO-
CIATION (QCWA) Wisconsin Chapter 55
meets the first Saturday of June and October.
For information about Chapter 55, contact Ron
Yokes, W9BCK, Secretary, 612 N. Pt Washing-
ton Road, Grafton, WI 53024-9703. (262) 375-
1774. mailto:rryokes@execpc.com.

QCWA Chapter 162
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSO-
CIATION (QCWA) Southeastern Wisconsin
Chapter 162. Meetings: Third Monday in Janu-
ary, March, May, July, September, and Novem-
ber, 7:30 p.m., usually at Meadows Restaurant,
Franksville, WI. Social events: Third Sundays in
February, April, June, August, and October.
Christmas party: Usually second or third Sunday
in December.

QCWA Chapter 219
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSO-
CIATION (QCWA) NorthEastern Wisconsin-
Upper Peninsula of Michigan (NEW-UP) Chap-
ter 219 meets 4 times per year. Chapter 219 net
on 3825 at 2200Z (2100Z during daylight time)
the first Saturday of the month. Jim Callow,
K8IR, Secretary, 1821 15th Ave., Menoninee,
MI 49858. jcallow@k8ir.com

Racine
LAKESHORE REPEATER ASSOCIATION
Meetings: Last Tuesday, January, April, July,
October. American Red Cross Building, 4521
Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Racine

(Continued on page 8)

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Manager
BWN	YES	3985	1200	0600	W9IXG
BEN	YES	3985	1800	1200	WD9FLJ
WSBN	YES	3985	2315	1715	KB9KEG
WNN	YES	3555	0000	1800	KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3555	0030	1830	N9JIY
WIN/E	YES	3555	0100	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3555	0400	2200	W9RTP
RCRA	NO	01/61	0130	1930	KA9OMC
(Mondays CDT— Menomonie Area)					
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12	0345	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25	0300	2100	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					
ARES/RACES (WRACES)	NO	3997.5	0000	1800	N9VAO
(Sundays)					

Wisconsin Section STM Report

STM Report Wisconsin Section November 2008

December 2008

Evening Early Birds. Due to the deteriorating band conditions, stations holding traffic are invited to meet on 3.985 at 5 P.M. so it might be exchanged even before the WSBN net call-up at 5:15. We'll try that until conditions improve.

FAQ # 88 – Aha! 88! Love and kisses! Thanksgiving. Winter holidays! Yes! It's a great time to review The Radio Amateur's Code. No, not Morse. Not the stuffy nose from contesting all night. I mean the one written in 1928 by Paul Segal, W9EEA.

The Radio Amateur is CONSIDER-ATE...never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others. LOYAL...offers loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally. PROGRESSIVE...with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach. FRIENDLY...slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit. BALANCED...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community. PATRIOTIC...station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

Our nets are excellent examples of Hams sharing their lives, showing their genuine interest in the lives of others, working together towards a goal of service.

As we practice traffic handling and serve other agencies through ARES/RACES, it's especially important to be polite. We're providing a service to people – social beings. We don't need to prove our intelligence. People don't care how much we know, but they should know how much we care. Keeping friendly relationships, i.e. giving a positive impression of the hobby, not only makes us look good but also helps our service to run more smoothly making it even more fun. Thanks to all who are giving, who make the amateur radio society a great neighborhood. 73 – K9LGU/STM-WI

FAQ # 89 – What are we learning from the adverse conditions? Plenty. While the conditions on HF have been making operation difficult for our section nets, they've also given us a chance to respond – as Hams do – with flexibility, with ingenuity, and with consideration for other operators. Here's what I've heard on the nets.

Net control stations have taken control even better than usual. All ask for more relays and take more frequent stand-bys. Many net controls have shifted frequency, such as from 3.985 MHz to 3984.5 to zerobeat the carrier of the foreign broadcast AM station or to 3982.5, if it's not busy. Some have even tried 1977.5 MHz. as an alternate frequency for the WSBN. CW nets shift up or down to avoid QRM. Two meters and 440 are used for back-up or passing traffic. Techniques such as “Send each word group twice” (Yes, that's QSZ) have been used more often.

Since conditions can deteriorate quickly, net controls have become even more proficient in listing and routing traffic. Handlers have been encouraged to get together quickly and work efficiently. Some nets, such as the BEN, have been asked to handle more than their usual share of traffic, and they have responded well.

Net calls and relays from out-of-state stations have been very helpful and those who assist are thanked publicly. Stations who check in and then stand by to listen for possible assistance have been plentiful. New check-ins are invited and then encouraged to check in often. More stations = more chance of relays. Comments from stations on the nets are succinct. In short, there's more listening. All of these responses are positive and are helping to build better nets.

No, we haven't found a way to improve the conditions – short of waiting for the sun (or sunspots) to rise – but we have reaffirmed that “when all else fails,” we will respond with ingenuity and mutual support. Here's a brief comparison of section nets stats over the past few years. We may be down a bit due to conditions, but we're doing okay. Thanks.
73 – K9LGU/STM - WI

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY

WISCONSIN SECTION

BWN is Badger Weather Net;
BEN is Badger Emergency Net;
WSBN is Wisconsin Side Band Net;
WNN is Wisconsin Novice Net;
WSSN is Wisconsin Slow Speed Net;
WIN/E is Wisconsin Intrastate Net/Early;
WIN/L is Wisconsin Intrastate Net/Late;
WRACES is Wisconsin Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service net.
Details on all these nets are found on this site:
<https://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI> under Wisconsin Traffic Nets.

6-year comparison

Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
QNI	42010	43083	41259	43174	49332	46319
QTC	23597	25966	28211	31194	36855	35846
SSNS	2548	2463	2414	2277	2482	2447

NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY November 2008

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	2309	2793	4081	30	W9IXG
BEN	596	86	1280	30	WD9FLJ
WSBN	426	32	752	29	KB9KEG
WNN	106	6	266	24	KB9ROB
WSSN	107	3	227	27	N9JIY
WIN/E	114	7	190	25	WB9ICH
WIN/L	115	47	222	30	W9RTP
WRACES	47	0	82	5	N9VAO
TOTALS	3820	2974	7100	200	

December 2008

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	2215	3008	4265	31	W9IXG
BEN	681	82	904	31	WD9FLJ
WSBN	247	26	670	29	KB9KEG
WNN	72	7	197	19	KB9ROB
WSSN	68	7	109	19	N9JIY
WIN/E	99	21	223	30	WB9ICH
WIN/L	128	27	268	30	W9RTP
WRACES	75	0	188	4	N9VAO
TOTALS	3585	3178	6824	193	

P S H R SUMMARY November 2008

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
WD9FLJ	40	40	20	55	0	10	165
K9LGU	40	40	30	20	0	0	130
AG9G	40	40	20	20	0	0	120
W9RTP	40	40	10	0	0	0	90

December 2008

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
K9LGU	40	40	30	80	0	0	190
WD9FLJ	40	40	20	25	5	10	140
AG9G	40	40	20	20	0	0	120
KB9KEG	15	33	30	10	0	10	98
KB9KEG – NOV	12	27	30	0	0	10	79

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY November 2008

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KA9EKG	46	625	589	56	1316
K9LGU	0	29	39	2	70
AG9G	0	3	50	0	53
W9RTP	0	42	7	0	49
WD9FLJ	0	33	11	3	47

(Continued on page 11)

Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsss.org>

The Computer Corner

by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
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(262) 268-1949
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No. 147. THE BOOT PROCESS

I wrote about this very topic twelve years ago, way back in August 1996 (No. 34), but it is time to revisit it again. There are significant changes between modern computers and those relics we used 12 years ago, plus the readership has turned over since then. So, lets revisit the topic.

Once you hit that power button, the motherboard springs to life and initializes its on-board chips, some of which have firmware on board – little packets of hardwired or flash memory that give instructions as to what to do. But the CPU (Central Processing Unit – the big, expensive chip that runs most everything in a computer) has not started doing its thing, just yet.

Many modern motherboards have more than one CPU, or, (as is true for the computer I am writing this on), several independent cores inside the single CPU. If there are, for example, two or more CPUs or cores, a binary coin is flipped and just one CPU is chosen. The other(s) are halted, while the chosen one runs all of the BIOS (Basic Input Output System) and just the foundation (called the kernel) of the operating system. Only later, after the operating system is working, will the other inactive CPUs or cores be called on to come back to life. But that is getting too far ahead. Here are the step-by-step essential details.

So, the winning CPU/core is chosen and springs to life. At this point, it is able to only address 1 megabyte of memory, just like the old Intel CPUs of the 1970s and 80s (remember the term, “real mode”?), with one major exception. It is able to look at a single instruction, only 16 bytes long, hidden well above the usual 1-megabyte ceiling. It does this, and finds there a command to “go look at whatever instructions you find in the BIOS chip residing on your motherboard and clear the instruction your are reading right now”! Sort of like the secret agent who is given instructions on a piece of paper, and told to then destroy that paper. So, the CPU clears those 16 bytes and begins reading the instructions coded in the BIOS chip. At this point, all of the usual RAM chips (Random Access Memory – the memory “sticks” in your machine) are still full of random ones and zeros. The CPU then starts executing the instructions as it reads them from the BIOS, and this starts some of the hardware in the machine. The CPU then starts the POST (Power On Self Test) that tests other hardware components in the system such as the video card. If the video

card passes, it moves on; if not, it will send a series of beeps to let you know (since the screen will not be working). If all is well with video, logos are printed on the screen, memory is initialized (all the bytes in the chips are set to zero), the memory is tested and the keyboard, mouse and other connected devices are tested. In the background, the CPU (still following instructions from the BIOS) sort out all the resources in the machine such as ports, memory and so on. It even builds a table of devices that are present in the machine, to be used later.

Next, the CPU goes looking for boot instructions for an operating system, commonly found on the hard drive. However, in today’s machines, we can configure where it looks and in what order. It may go looking in order at a floppy, a CD, a USB flash drive, or the hard drive, depending on what the user has selected and written in the user-configurable portion of the BIOS. If it finds no instructions in any device it has been commanded to look at, the old (circa 1980s) “Non-System Disk or Disk Error” message appears.

Let us assume the hard drive is the first device in the BIOS’ list of places to search. The CPU will then search the first 512-byte sector of the hard drive, known as the Master Boot Record (MBR). It reads that and plunks it into memory (the RAM sticks are now in use). Two major things are there in the MBR. One is a Partition Table, a little 64-byte table that tells how the hard drive is divided up (for example, in C:, D: and E: logical partitions, or whatever). Also present in the MBR and physically before the Partition Table is a little (less than 512 bytes) boot program for the Operating System. Assuming it is some flavor of Windows, that little boot program says, “Go look at the first sector of the active partition (only one is active, no matter how many there are) to get further instructions.” The CPU then searches the active partition and normally finds instructions there to load the kernel of the Operating System. Just prior to loading the kernel, the machine can go into protected mode, wherein it can access more than 1 megabyte of memory for the first time since the boot process started.

Now that the kernel is loaded, at least the fundamentals of an Operating System (OS) are in place. The kernel can and does instruct the CPU on how to load the rest of the OS – there are files here and there that are read into memory and contribute to building of the OS. That “Windows is Starting” message on your screen signifies the building process is underway and nearly complete. Voila! Your desktop appears and you are ready to go.

A pretty amazing and intricate series of

events! For me, the most astounding fact is that, except for a few very small files that the CPU reads directly from the BIOS early in the boot process as outlined above, everything must get put into RAM before it can be read and acted on by the CPU. I constantly have to remind myself that nothing appears on the screen if it is not first in those RAM sticks.

And, when editing a document on the screen as I am doing now, until the edits are saved on the hard drive, everything will go “poof” if those RAM sticks loose power! That is exactly why I just this moment clicked the Save Document icon in Microsoft Word. Whew! I am safe now. Happy Computing!

Minutes of December 20, 2008, WNA Meeting

The WNA meeting was called to order by STM K9LGU at 12:33 pm on 3.985 KHz.

Check-ins were
K9LGU STM/NCS
WB9ICH - WIN/E Net Manager
AG9G - WSSN - BWN
WD9FRI – BEN Del. - visitor
N1KSN – visitor – WSSN NCS
K9LRS – BWN - visitor
WD9FLJ – BEN Net Manager
KB9ENO - WRACES
AB9ET - visitor
N9VC - visitor
KC9LOY - visitor
KA9EKG - BWN Del.

Minutes of the October minutes were approved (WD9FLJ/ KB9ENO).

STM REPORT - K9LGU

The old WNA Manual has been posted on the ARRL Wisconsin page on the web. You may find it interesting.

Reminder: We have continued the WNA, Ltd. as an organization for the reasons our constitution spells out –

Section 1. To lend such aid as is possible in developing the amateur radio nets within the State of Wisconsin along progressive lines.

Section 2. To promote friendly cooperation among the amateur radio nets within Wisconsin and other nets in adjacent states.

Section 3. To take a general interest in all matters involving amateur radio nets and to take such action as may be deemed necessary.

Section 4. To provide a means through which members of affiliated nets may present a united front on matters of interest to them.

Section 5. To sponsor a supporting group of amateurs to be known as the W.N.A. Boosters.

Section 6. To promote, hold, and sponsor activities as deemed necessary by the Board.

Our tasks over the last few years have been very limited – because the nets have been functioning very smoothly – despite the need for frequency change, time shifts, and the usual need for net controls and liaisons. I believe we have a good system going and keeping the WNA gives us the back-up mechanism in case we need it. If there are no major issues, if it only functions as a way to share ideas among nets, what’s wrong with that?

Net managers are reminded to offer net certificates to those who qualify, to recommend appointments as Official Relay Station, and to encourage their net control stations to list traffic often throughout a net session. Remember that we handle traffic as a service – and for the training it gives us. If we can involve some of the new check-ins with a welcome-to-the-net message or as relay stations, it can build an even stronger system.

Use proper protocol for sending and receiving messages. Do some right on net frequency – especially if there are new stations checking in. Good examples are a great way to teach. Don’t forget the CW nets. It’s still a good traffic-handling mode.

To date (Nov. 30), our section nets have had 42,734 check-ins and handled 32,668 pieces of traffic. Our numbers may be down a little this year due to conditions, but we’re doing okay.

Finally, thanks for making the job of the Section Traffic Manager so easy for me. The great cooperation we have in our section really makes us outstanding in the National Traffic System.

NET REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

BWN (AG9G, K9LRS, KA9EKG) Conditions are tough even past 7A.M. Thanks to all the steady out-of-state relays to help pass the traffic Averaging 75 check-ins and 90 pieces of traffic Net time is about 135 minutes or 2 hrs and 25 min. Have been picking up a few new members along the way.

BEN (WD9FLJ) Conditions like all have been tough but net is doing well thanks

Check us out on the web
at <http://www.bsss.org>

WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT

November 2008

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3982.5 0500-0715 W9IXG. BEN 3985 1200 WD9FLJ. WSBN 3985 1715-1800 KB9KEG. WNN 3555 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3555 1830 N9JIY. WIN-E 3555 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3555 2200 W9UW. WRACES 3977.5 0800 Sundays N9VAO (All times are Central time)

Regretfully, I am informing you of the passing of these Wisconsin Amateurs:

Roy Pederson, K9FHI, 84. Roy was Wisconsin Section Manager from 1973 through 1984 and from 1996 to 1999. He was active in the Rock River Radio Club and Section nets. Please go to the Wisconsin site for more details: <http://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI>

Walter Shellingosky, W9SDH, 90. Wally was a member of the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club.

Greg Schneider, W9IEI, 69. Greg was a member of Fox Cities ARC and Green Bay Mike and Key club.

Corwin "Corky" Holmquist, KA9BDY, 89. Corky was a former member of Four Lakes ARC.

-- Mike Povlich, WB9HGS, 59. Mike was a member of West Allis Radio Amateur Club.

The West Allis Radio Amateur Club 37th annual midwinter Swapfest will be held on Saturday, January 3, 2009, 8 A.M. to 2 P.M. at the Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI.

Directions: I-94 west from Milwaukee to County Hwy J (exit 294), south to County Hwy FT, west to the Expo.

Special Events: VE session (9-11:15 A.M.) at AMF Waukesha Lanes (across from Expo) and Badger Contester's meeting. Costs: Admission: advanced \$4, door \$5. Eight-foot tables only: advanced \$19; door \$20 (if available), electrical outlet \$20 (advance only). Registration: Send advance registration form and #10 business size SASE to WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Advance reservation deadline is December 30, 2008.

Information: Phil Gural, W9NAW, 414.425.3649 or visit www.warac.org. Meet Dick Isely, W9GIG, Central Division Director, and I will be there with a very special membership renewal promotion! Don, W9IXG

Looking for some catchy audio or video to augment an Amateur Radio booth at a non-Ham event, or to spice up a meeting? The ARRL has several short messages available on their web page at: <http://www.arrl.org/pio/#itnpsa> The audio can be shared with broadcast

radio stations that are interested in airing Amateur Radio public service announcements, or can be played in a loop over speakers at events to attract people to a radio club display. Many of them are great conversation starters, and as long as you use a number of them, and space them out so they don't drive the visitors crazy, I think you will get lots of folks to stop by and talk with you.

At the same web page there is a 30 second video public service announcement and two longer videos. The short video is intended for broadcast on interested TV stations. If you have a station interested in using this video let me know and I will have ARRL send a disk for them. While it can be downloaded often stations are reluctant to use downloaded material. This short video can be used for club displays as well.

There are two longer videos available as well. One is an introduction to amateur radio, and would be great to show to groups of interested folks to promote our hobby. The second is a video about the Ham response to Katrina, and is moving for anyone. I can see that video used at a club meeting to get conversation started about ARES/RACES participation.

Here are some ways that ARRL is working to enhance our hobby. Please feel free to make use of them.

Keith Lodahl, KB9NUM, kb9num@charter.net Public Information Coordinator

I wish everyone a safe and Happy Holiday season! 73, Don, W9IXG

December 2008

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: N9VE, STM: K9LGU, SGL: AD9X, OOC: KC9IS, PIC: KB9NUM, TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK, ACC: N9LVS ASMs: K9UTQ, W9DGI, N9VE, KG8CX, KB9ENO.

Regretfully, I am informing you of the passing of these Wisconsin Amateurs:

Darold Patrow, N9FLK, 88. Darold was a lifetime member of Eau Claire ARC.

Curt Peters, N9CP, 83. Curt was a former member of Four Lakes ARC.

George Wamsley, KB9ZPV, 55. George was active in Racine ARES/RACES.

Robert Knutson, W9BUG, 84. Bob was a member of MARS and ECARC. Edward "T-Bear" Pliner, N9CLG, 62.

Through a memorial gift to ARRL you can celebrate or honor the life or contributions of a family member or friend for whom Amateur Radio has been a passion. <http://www.arrl.org/development/memorial.html#top> Please keep me informed of any Wisconsin Amateurs who pass away. Send me the obituary (newspaper website notice preferred) to w9ixg@arrl.org so I can pass it on to ARRL for posting in QST.

Heads up! 2009 Wisconsin QSO party is March 15 from 1 PM to 8 PM. Details and rules are given on the website: <http://www.warac.org/wqp/wqp.htm>

Congratulations to Jim Markstrom, KB9MMA, for receiving the President's Volunteer Service Award from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation! Jim was recognized for his leadership of the response to the January 2008 Kenosha County tornados. Well done, Jim!!

NEWDXA member, John Meyer, NZ9Z, has been appointed as an ARRL DXCC Field Checker. John's email address is jmeyer@tm.net if you wish to have checking done contact John regarding instructions. Thank you, John! Other DXCC Card Checkers can be found at this site: <http://www.arrl.org/>

Minutes of December 20, 2008, WNA Meeting

(Continued from page 5)
to all the NCSs averaging 20 check-ins per session. Averaging 4 pieces of traffic per session and average time is around 43 minutes. Have also picked up new members.

WSBN (K9LGU) Conditions rough. Moves freq. down slightly or to 3.982 to get away from BC station on 3.985. If people choose, they can call on the net freq. starting around 4 pm and see if anyone is there to pass traffic to try and beat the conditions. N9VC reminded us of the need for consistency in time and frequency. If NCS starts net early, announcements should be made about the regular times and frequencies so new check-ins are not confused.

WNN Not much to report. Rough conditions but for the year (to Nov. 30) they have had 1379 checkins and handled 66 pieces of traffic. More Net controls would be welcome. Stations should feel free to QNG if net hasn't started by 6:01.

WSSN (AG9G) Conditions have been up and down - some nights can copy people and other nights not but has been rough most of the time. Not passing lots of traffic but good place for training in net procedures etc. All are welcome to stop by and check it out.

WIN/E (WB9ICH) Like all the rest, conditions are tough but still getting 1 to 3 checkins per session. Traffic is almost nil but we do pass 1 or 2 if people can hear each other or go to a different band or mode Looking for volunteer ncs's to help take a little of the strain off. You would only need

[awards/dxcc/checkers.html](#)

A reminder that if you would like to receive an email monthly listing of new Wisconsin Amateurs, just let me know. With this list, you can contact those new Amateurs who are near to your club and invite them to attend your meetings! w9ixg@arrl.org

AES Superfest will be held on April 3, 4. Steve Ford, WB8IMY (QST Editor and prolific technical writer) will be the guest speaker from ARRL! AES is extending an invitation to clubs to participate with covered 8 ft. tables with electrical in a large area where you can promote and recruit new members and interact with other clubs. There is no admission or space charge; your whole organization can participate without cost. To reserve a table, contact Ray, K9KHW, rayk9khw@aol.com Office: (414) 375-116 Cell: (414) 881-3528 (anytime). Of course, Bob Inderbitzen and I will be at the ARRL booth with some extra special membership promotions! Think Spring!

73, Don, W9IXG

ARRL Wisconsin Section
Section Manager: Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG
w9ixg@arrl.org

to do it one day a week and only for about 5 minutes. That's all!

WIN/L Net Manager W9RTP is also in need of additional net controls and liaisons. Late-night conditions aren't much better and we've had to use the TCARC Repeater in Jefferson and N9QIP's Interstate Network on 440 as back-up.

ARES/RACES (KB9ENO) Changed time of net from 6 P.M. to 8 A.M.Sundays on 3.977.5 20 to 25 checkins is still low because of time change but hoping to do better. This is an especially good training net for learning how to pass tactical traffic, help out in disasters, etc.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominations for officers were opened. A slate was presented as follows: Chair - KA9BHK SEC - KB9ROB and TREAS - W9RTP. Motion to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for the slate presented.(WD9FLJ/WB9ICH) Carried. Special thanks to Ron, W9UW, for all his fine work as treasurer. We all hope his move to Colorado goes well

The next meeting of the WNA will be Saturday, March 14, 2009, following the BEN on 3.985 Motion to adjourn (WB9ICH/WD9FLJ). Carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:24 pm

Respectfully submitted,
WB9ICH, Acting Secretary

Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsسسs.org>

Ten Reasons Why *You* Should Operate in the
Wisconsin QSO Party
By Fred Helmstetter, N9FH

(Continued from page 1)
the WIQP, the rules for stations inside versus outside Wisconsin are slightly different. Hams located in Wisconsin can contact stations anywhere for credit ("QSO points") while people outside of the state only work WI stations. Each of the 72 counties in Wisconsin counts as a score "multiplier" and for in-state participants other US states and Canadian provinces are multipliers as well. The exchange is your county if in Wisconsin and your state/province if outside. So the basic idea is to contact and accurately log as many stations as possible in as many different counties/states/provinces as possible.

So - here are some things to think about:

1. You don't need a big station to do well.

I often hear people talk about how there's no point in getting involved in something like WIQP or other contests because "everyone is running 3 KW amps into stacked beams" and the "litttle guy" has no chance. The reality is that in an event like WIQP the ham with a typical small station is in a very good position to do well. Most of the important contacts for Wisconsin operators are made within a few hundred miles and local activity tends to favor the 80 and 40-meter bands. I have several antennas at my station but in the years that I've scored well in WIQP most of these contacts were made on a basic 40m dipole hanging 20 to 25 feet off the ground and fed with a long run of RG8/X. Most hams can manage an antenna like this even if it's only up for the weekend of the contest. As for power, since the rules were changed several years ago to include a power multiplier, very few people seem to be running more than 100 watts.

2. You don't need HF privileges or fast CW skills.

It is certainly true that most of the contacts that are available to you during the contest are on the HF bands. That said, you may be surprised to see how many people you can find on VHF and UHF. I know of a few VHF enthusiasts who focus their attention on those bands and have been quite active in WIQP. This includes QSOs on FM as well as SSB. If you only have a 2m radio and a vertical antenna you might want to hang around the FM simplex frequencies and see who you can find (146.55 is usually good). Some years there is quite a lot of activity here. As for CW, there are lots of folks that operate WIQP every year and don't use this mode at all.

However, if you really want to maximize your score you can't beat doing some CW since the rules state that each contact in this mode counts more. If you tune around you'll find people at all different code speeds on the bands calling CQ WIQP.

3. It's great practice for operating on Field Day.

There are an awful lot of hams that don't have a burning interest in HF operating but do like to get on maybe once a year for ARRL Field Day with their buddies. As with many skills, when it comes to being comfortable and proficient in front of a radio there is no substitute for practice. If you want to be a little smoother at FD this year then consider putting in some time during WIQP. You can practice your contest style exchanges, get familiar with a new radio or logging software, or try out a new idea for a portable antenna. Several years ago I did a WIQP "expedition" to a semi-rare county with a friend of mine from our FD group. We camped out and set up a portable station and had a great time playing around in the snow. We were also able to try out a few new tricks that helped our score in June.

4. You can help your favorite club.

Did you know that WIQP has a club competition? Is your club looking for a little organized activity or a little more visibility within the state? Here's your chance. The more club members you can get to submit logs the better your chances for winning the club title in WQIP. This could also be a good reason to get together with other members. There are several entry categories for multi-operator efforts. If you have an HF setup and others in your club don't, invite them over and do a multi-op entry. This can really be a lot of fun. It can also be a good opportunity to expose new hams to HF operating and contesting (see also no. 3 above). The Ozaukee Radio Club came out on top in WIQP 2007. Who will be next to hold the title?

5. You can win certificates and awards.

Some folks like "wallpaper". If that's true in your case you should be aware that the WIQP organizers provide very attractive "certificates of achievement" for a large number of entries. The top scoring single operator also gets a beautiful engraved wooden plaque. Be the first in your neighborhood to have one! Of course, getting on for WIQP is also a good way to check off a few new states for your Worked All States (WAS) or grid squares

for VUCC.

6. Rare Wisconsin counties are active.

Are you a "county hunter"? Lots of hams get hours of enjoyment from chasing and tracking QSOs with counties throughout the US. It's kind of like taking the WAS award from ARRL to the extreme! The object here is to make two-way radio contact with hams operating in every county in every state. State QSO parties like WIQP are great for this in that since counties are considered multipliers within the contest, rare counties are often put on the air. Also, don't forget that WARAC sponsors the "Worked all Wisconsin Counties Award". The WIQP might be the only time you're likely to hear some of them on the radio.

7. Say hello to old friends (and make some new ones).

One of my favorite things about the WIQP is the opportunity to say hello to old friends. A number of hams that no longer live in Wisconsin make it a point to get on the air during WIQP and check in for this very reason. There is a pretty consistent group of operators that show up every year and after you do it a while you'll start to recognize a lot of callsigns. You're also going to hear lots of people you know from the local clubs. Some ops tend to try to keep it moving as fast as possible while others will take some time to "ragchew" and catch up a bit. It is a "QSO party" after all which amounts to a great way to get as many Wisconsin hams and interested others on the air at the same time.

8. Support amateur radio in Wisconsin.

The WIQP is really the only organized amateur radio event in which all hams in the state are encouraged to get on the air and contact each other. The level of activity in the WIQP says a lot about the state if the hobby in Wisconsin. Our QSO party has a well-deserved reputation for being one of the best organized and attended. The level and quality of CW activity is also often mentioned by those outside the Badger State. Get on the air and add your support.

9. Learn more about contesting.

Are you the kind of person that likes to keep score? If you like healthy competition and amateur radio then contesting may be something you want to learn more about. State QSO parties like WIQP are a great way to get your feet wet in contesting. The operating period is short, the rules are simple, and the scoring structure favors low power stations with low antennas. While activity levels are such that you'll be able to consistently make contacts at a

pretty good rate, they are not as high as in other domestic or DX contests when the entire band will be packed from top to bottom with people CQing. Operators also tend to be a bit more laid back in this situation. See how many QSOs you can manage in an hour, or think about ways to maximize the number of multipliers you work. The WIQP is a great place to start thinking about the strategy and tactics needed to maximize your score.

Contesting in general is probably the best way to develop a whole group of skills including fast and accurate operating, knowledge of propagation, station design and optimization, etc. You can always do something to put up a better score. Importantly, "better" can mean better than the next guy you want to beat or, more often, just better than you did last year. Keeping score and having everyone play by the same set of rules allows you to measure your progress as an operator and quantify the effectiveness of your station.

10. Have fun!

The most important reason to get on for WIQP is that it loads of fun. There's something in it for everybody from the hard-core tester to the casual mobile op with a 2m FM rig taking the kids to their afternoon activities. If you've never tried making contacts in the WIQP I hope you will give it a shot this year. If you've done it in the past but have gotten out of the habit then I hope you get on as well - if only to give your club a few more points and to say hello to some old friends.

You can read about the WIQP on the WARAC web site (<http://www.warac.org>). All the information you need to participate as well as the results for prior year's events can be found there. I hope to put you in the log on March 9th! CU on the bands.

73 de N9FH

—From WARAC web site.

Roy Pederson, K9FHI
Silent Microphone

(Continued from page 1)

the club's Sunshine Committee. Roy was typically the first to volunteer for many of the club activities. Roy and Beryl also enjoyed attending the Ham Radio event called the Annual Ground Hog Party held in Watertown.

Roy was well liked throughout the Wisconsin Ham community with his wry sense of humor and sunny disposition. He will be sadly missed.

Check us out on the web
at <http://www.bsss.org>



(Continued from page 3)

RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB Meetings: Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m., American Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI. For a Map: <http://www.w9udu.org/rmcmap.gif> The Racine Hams Yahoo group is for listing of Ram Radio activities in and around Racine, WI and Southeastern Wisconsin. The group calendar can send e-mail notices about upcoming events. Activities listed for Racine County ARES (W19RAC); Racine Megacycle Club, (W9UDU); Lakeshore Repeater Association (KR9RK); Racine Amateur Television Society (RATS); QCWA Chapter 162 (K9AKG) and More. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Racine-Hams/>

Sheboygan
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Tuesdays. 7 p.m., Sheboygan County Red Cross/Boy Scout Building, 2032 Erie Avenue.

Shell Lake
Northland ARC meetings are held the first Saturday of each month after breakfast. Location: Schmitz's Economart Deli. Located on US Hwy.63 on the south end of Spooner. The meeting will start at approx. 8:00 AM. Breakfast usually starts by 7:30 AM. Come and see what we're about. Anyone, even if you're licensed or not and has an interest in ham radio is welcome to attend! Next Meeting: Sept 4th, 2004 at 8:00 AM. So Please plan to attend!!!! <http://home.centurytel.net/NorthlandARC/>.

Stevens Point
CWRA Ltd./UWSP ARC Meetings second Wednesday. of each month at 7:30 pm. Science Building on the UW-Stevens Point Campus, Room A107, Stevens Point, WI. Email: jglas776@uwsp.edu. Webpage: www.qsl.net/wb9qfw.

Superior
ARROWHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. Meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Secondary Technical Center. The address is: 802 East Central Entrance - Duluth, MN 55811. The board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

W.A.R. WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS
Quarterly meetings of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters are held at various locations around the State in March, July and November. Check the WAR web page for meeting announcements and repeater coordination info. Information: <http://www.wi-repeaters.org>.

Watertown
WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Thursdays of month, 7 p.m., Room S-114 of the Watertown High School, 825 Endeavour Drive, Watertown, WI 53098 at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday each month.

Waupaca
WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CQ First Tue. Social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon, King's Table, King, WI, on Highway QQ, just south of Highways 10 and 54, west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11 to 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted. CQ Third Fri. Social gathering and Dutch treat dinner. Semi-formal, OM and XYL, at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check: Waupaca 147.39 nets at 8 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for month's meeting location.

Wausau
WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION Meetings: 7:00 pm the first Tuesday of the month except for July. The meeting location is the Marshfield Clinic, Wausau Center. Talk in is on 147.135 + PL 114.8. Website is www.wvraclub.org.

West Allis
West Allis Radio Amateur Club Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 80th and Lincoln Ave., West Allis. Meetings in basement. Entrance at rear, off alley. Handicapped accessible. www.warac.org.

West Bend
WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Saturday of each month at 8:30 am. Location is the Polk Town Hall, Highway 60 west of Jackson. For more information, call Mike, N9JIY at 262-627-0519, or inquire via the 146.730 with Echolink (K9SK) repeater.

Wisconsin Rapids
WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month and are held at the McMillan Memorial Library located on the corner of Lincoln St & E. Grand Ave. in Wisconsin Rapids, unless otherwise notified. The meetings start at 6:30 PM and end by 8:00 PM.

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The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

February 07, 2009	Madison, WI
February 07, 2009	St. Paul, MN
February 07, 2009	Racine, WI
February 12, 2009	Apple Valley, MN
February 14, 2009	Blaine, MN
February 14, 2009	Appleton, WI
February 14, 2009	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
February 14, 2009	La Crosse, WI
February 19, 2009	Iron River, MI
February 21, 2009	Wisconsin Rapids, WI
February 21, 2009	Rockford, IL
February 28, 2009	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
February 28, 2009	Tomahawk, WI
March 07, 2009	St. Paul, MN
March 07, 2009	Madison, WI
March 08, 2009	Sterling, IL
March 12, 2009	Apple Valley, MN
March 14, 2009	Blaine, MN
March 14, 2009	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
March 14, 2009	Sheboygan, WI
March 19, 2009	Iron River, MI
March 21, 2009	Rockford, IL
March 28, 2009	Menomonie, WI
March 28, 2009	Tomahawk, WI
April 04, 2009	Medford, WI
April 04, 2009	St. Paul, MN
April 08, 2009	Stoughton (Madison) WI
April 09, 2009	Apple Valley, MN
April 11 2009	Blaine, MN
April 11 2009	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 16, 2009	Iron River, MI
April 18, 2009	Janesville, WI
April 18, 2009	Eau Claire, WI
April 18, 2009	Rockford, IL
April 25, 2009	Tomahawk, WI
April 25, 2009	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 02, 2009	Madison, WI
May 02, 2009	St. Paul, MN
May 09, 2009	Blaine, MN
May 09, 2009	Adams, WI
May 09, 2009	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May 09, 2009	La Crosse, WI
May 14, 2009	Apple Valley, MN
May 16, 2009	Rockford, IL
May 21, 2009	Iron River, MI
May 30, 2009	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May 30, 2009	Tomahawk, WI
June 06, 2009	Madison, WI
June 06, 2009	St. Paul, MN
June 11, 2009	Apple Valley, MN
June 13, 2009	Blaine, MN
June 13, 2009	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
June 18, 2009	Iron River, MI
June 20, 2009	Rockford, IL
June 27, 2009	Tomahawk, WI
July 09, 2009	Apple Valley, MN
July 11, 2009	Blaine, MN
July 11, 2009	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
July 16, 2009	Iron River, MI
July 18, 2009	Rockford, IL
July 25, 2009	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
July 25, 2009	Tomahawk, WI
September 12, 2009	La Crosse, WI
November 14, 2009	La Crosse, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN

Monthly, 2nd Sat. Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Thu. Iron River, MI
Monthly, 3rd Sat. Rockford, IL
Monthly, Last Sat. Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(Except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)
Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS:

Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A Hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination..

See QST, W1AW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. Test fees: **The ARRL/VEC has set its 2009 test fee at \$15.00.** FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC.

Adams, WI
Adams City Fire Dept., 101 N. Main St., Highway 13, Adams, WI. Contact Edward J. Wagner (608) 584-4858. ab9fn@yahoo.com

Appleton, WI
Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building, 1302 East Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: w9mdp@arrl.net.

Eau Claire, WI
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W., Grand Ave. Enter off 2nd Avenue entrance, Eau Claire, WI
Technician, General and Extra Class exams. Walkins welcome. Examination ses-

sion coordinator: Jonathan E., Case, (715) 834-1540. www.ecarc.org. w9eau@ecarc.org.

Fond du Lac, WI
Fond du Lac ARC (ARRL/VEC). Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac. 9:00 a.m. Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Douglas J. Schultz, 920-922-3088, n9ezf@fdlhams.org

Houghton, MI
V.E. Exams at Michigan Tech. University in Houghton, MI will be held in the ballroom of DHH (Douglass Houghton Hall at Michigan Tech). Free Parking in Lot #14, front of DHH, across from Wadsworth Residence Hall. Use door #9 on the South-East side of DHH. Contact Glenn Ekdahl, WA8QNF at (906) 482-7743 if you have questions.

Iron Mountain, MI
Sponsor: W5YI VEC. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-Ins Allowed). Contact: Mark J Lewis, (906)774-6598. VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Dickinson County Library, 401 South Iron Mountain St., Arrival Time: 9:00 AM. Conference Room, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Iron River, MI.
Sponsor: Iron Range ARA (IRARC). Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins). Contact: Dan R Waters, (906)265-4240. Email: dmwaters@ironriver.tv VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Iron River Lutheran Church, Across From Mc Donald's. Pre-Registration Required. If no applicants - No testing. Iron River, MI 49935

Janesville, WI
Saint John Lutheran Church, Conference Room, 292 N. Parker Drive, upper parking entrance. Janesville, WI. Contact Scott A. Fry, (608) 449-8513. e-mail: radarkilowatt@aol.com

La Crosse, WI (ARRL/VEC).
Sponsor: Riverland Amateur Radio Club Location: American Red Cross-2927 Losey Blvd. LaCrosse, WI Time: 9:00a.m. (Walk-Ins OK) Contact: Roger Reader 608-783-0723 readers@centurytel.net.

Madison, WI
The Madison Wisconsin, Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club-sponsored VE testing has moved to the new University of Wisconsin Space Place, 2300 South Park Street, lower level, Madison, WI in the Villager shopping center complex. Exams are given the first Saturday of the month, from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, no appointment is necessary. Questions may be directed to Carolyn Kammen, NQ9A at 608-246-0225 (home phone) or sent to NQ9A@arrl.net.

Marshfield, WI
Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. 6:00 p.m., walk-in allowed. Saint Joseph's Hospital, 611 Saint Joseph Ave., Room 124, Hospice South Bldg., Marshfield, WI 54449. Contact: Richard L. Nesbitt, (715)384-3489. Email: Nesbit@charter.net

Mauston, WI
Location is the Mauston City Hall, from

9am - noon. Holding testing sessions here quarterly for all elements. Walk-ins always welcomed and Talk-in via the 146.850 (pl 123.0) repeater. The contact person is myself dave@n0trq.com or 08-548-2271. Sponsored by Juneau County Amateur Radio Club (JCARC).

Medford, WI.
Sponsor: Black River ARA. Time: 9:00AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Thomas D. Hrdina, (715)748-4054. VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Medford Public Library, 400 N Main St., Community Room, Medford, WI 54451

Menasha, WI
Location: Sabre Lanes, 1330 Midway Rd. Menasha, WI 54952, Sponsor: Fox Cities ARC Hamfest. ARRL/VEC. Time: 8:00 AM (No walk-ins). Contact: George R Croy, (920)730-0967. Email: W9MDP@ARRL.NET. VEC:

Menomonie, WI (ARRL/VEC)
Sponsored by the Dunn County Area Amateurs Location: University of Wisconsin, 121 10th Avenue, UW Stout Millennium Hall, NW Entrance, Menomonie, WI 54751. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: James L. Guenther, (715)232-2625. Email: guentherj@uwstout.edu

Menominee, MI
Marinette-Menominee Amateur Radio Club. Location: The cafeteria of Bay Area Med Center, US-41 in Menominee. Building located next to KFC just off the Interstate Bridge. All classes given. Advance notice preferred, but not required. Test fee is \$10 with two pieces of identification required. Contact Jeff Rymer, N9PQU at jrymer@ez-net.com or Ed Engleman, KG8CX, at dxer@cybrzn.com. We will monitor the 147.000 (107.2 pl) repeater in event further directions or info is needed.

Merrill, WI
Merrill Amateur Radio Group. 3:15 p.m. (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Myron J. Oestreich (715) 355-6902 e-mail: kb9stb@margdx.com Location: Gail's Place, n4090 Cth. K, Lincoln Center Banquet Hall.

Milwaukee, WI
MRAC VEC, Inc. holds 10 test sessions throughout the year. Regular sessions are held at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) on the last Saturday of January, February, April, May, July, September, October, and November. We also test during the West Allis RAC Swapfest held in January, on the Saturday of AES's Super-Fest.

AES is at 5710 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee. (Watch for signs directing you to the proper room.) The session during West Allis RAC's Swapfest is held at AMF Lanes across the street from the Waukesha Expo at 901 Northview Rd.

Regular sessions run from 9:30 to 11:00. Superfest and Swapfest sessions start at either 8:30 or 9:00 (watch for flyers) and run until 11:00. The cost is \$5.00. Please bring a form of ID (driver's license is fine),

(Continued on page 10)

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations
and Schedules in the Area

(Continued from page 9)

and both the original and photocopy of your ham license (if applicable) and any CSCE. There is no advance registration; merely show up and sign in. For additional information, contact Tom Fuszard, KF9PU, at tom@supremecom.biz, or call 262-789-7975.

Negaunee, MI. Sponsor: HIAWATHA ARC. Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Richard E Schwenke, (906)249-3837, Email: n8gba@chartermi.net VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Health Dept Bldg (Downstairs), 184 US 41 E, Entrance @ Back of building. Negaunee, MI 49866

Oshkosh, WI (Omro)
Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio exams monthly on the second Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Portage, WI
10:30 a.m. Portage Public Library, 253 W Edgewater St., Portage, WI. Contact Ed Wagner, (608) 584-4858. e-mail: ab9fn@yahoo.com.

Racine, WI
ARRL VEC Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Robert M. Frederiksen, (262) 637-6588. e-mail: kb9zaf@arrl.net.

Rockford, IL
Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at St. An-

thony Hospital, 5660 E State St., Rockford, IL. Contact: Randy Scott, W9HL, W9HL@ARRL.NET (815-877-4328).

Sheboygan, WI
Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Exams are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The test areas are handicap accessible with signage posted to direct candidates to the proper area of the building. Walk-ins are accepted, however notification ahead of time of your intention to appear would be appreciated. Contact: Art Pahr K9XJ, 920-876-2370. N8029 Willow Road k9xj@arrl.net Plymouth, WI 53073-2929

Sterling, IL
Sterling Rock Falls Amateur Radio Society. Location: Challand Middle School. 1700 6th Avenue, Sterling, IL. http://www.sterlinghamfest.com. Talk-In: 146.85 (PL 114.8). Contact: Lloyd Sherman, KB9APW, 25873 Capp Road, Sterling, IL 61081. Phone: 815-336-2434. Email: lsherman@essex1.com

Tomahawk, WI
Tomahawk Repeater Association ARRL/VEC team. Last Saturday of every month January thru October. Registration at 8:30, testing at 9:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Hospital, 401 W. Mohawk Dr., Tomahawk. Contact Diane Lodge Hamman, KA9BHK, 145.43 MHz or telephone 715 453-3908.

St. Paul, MN
Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month. Site: Roseville City Hall, 2660 County Road C, NW Corner County Road. C & Lexington Ave., Roseville MN 55101. Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed) Contact: David M Buending, (952)486-0836, Email: AD2B@ARRL.NET, VEC: ARRL/VEC.

Waukesha, WI (Milwaukee VEC)
Sponsor: West Allis Radio Club Swapfest, Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed. Contact: John G. Kraak, (262)548-9585. Email: jkraak@wi.rr.com. Location: AMF Waukesha Lanes, across from Waukesha EXPO, Waukesha, WI 53186.

Wausau, WI.
Sponsor: WVRA. Time: 8:00 Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Gerald L. Graebel, (715) 42-9542. VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Martech Systems, 614 N. 3rd Ave, Wausau, WI 54401. Parking in rear of building.

Wisconsin Rapids
Time: 9:30AM (Walk-ins allowed), Contact: Kristine J. Atka, (715)886-4111. VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: McMillan Library, 490 E. grand Ave., McCourt Conference Room, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSOCIATION (NEWDXA) AMATEUR RADIO - W9DXA

Effective immediately JohnMmeyer,NZ9Zz,Kkellnersville, WI, NEWDXA member #2 has been appointed as an “ARRL dx field checker” by the ARRL DX desk. John is a charter, life member of the NEWDXA. His DXCC field checking appointment is sponsored by NEWDXA.

Contact john for an appointment:

- (1) To check BASIC 100 CARDS FOR INITIAL DXCC CERTIFICATE
- (2) To make ENDORSEMENTS TO YOUR DXCC COUNT

John is available for:

- (1) Questions you may have regarding DXCC
- (2) To assist any amateur needing DXCC cards checked – not just NEWDXA members. He will assist any amateur at all times.

John’s email address is: jmever@tm.net if you wish to have checking done contact john regarding instructions. For NEWDXA members - John is most often at our quarterly meetings. If you cannot make it to a meeting, arrangements can be made to send the cards by mail.

You need to make an appointment with john to have cards checked. Think ahead and contact him as early as possible that you would like checking done on a certain date. He will let you know if he will be available on that date for you. Also remember there is money \$\$\$ involved in checking cards you must pay a fee as required by the ARRL.

Always provide the courtesy of contacting him early enough so preparations can be made by the checker to accommodate you. If you would like cards checked at a NEWDXA meeting, remember, other members may want cards checked also. He needs advance notice so he can schedule to do your cards.

The Madison Area Repeater Association, Inc. is proud to announce:

The 2009 Madison Hamfest & Computer Fair

Saturday, April 18, 2009

8:00am until 1:00pm

(Dealer Set-Up Friday Night and early Saturday Morning)

The Madison Hamfest was once again be held at the

Mandt Community Center

400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, Wisconsin
The Mandt Community Center is located in the Stoughton Junior Fair Grounds on the south side of Stoughton.

Talk-in Frequency: 147.75/15 Mhz

Featuring vendors of new and used equipment for all aspects of Amateur Radio, Electronics and Computer enthusiasts as well as computer software. All in the Mandt Community Center's spacious 26,000 sq. ft. main hall!

The doors will open to the public at 8:00am.
Plenty of spacious FREE PARKING!

VENDOR INFORMATION

The Madison Hamfest and Computer Fair offers a variety of commercial and flea market space. Vendor space goes on sale in November and sells out several weeks before the event so be sure to reserve your space early this year.

Vender space is available on a "first come, first served" bases. Complete vendor information can be found by sending Mr. John Steffl, WZ9I an E-Mail or by calling the hamfest coordinator at: 608.245.8890. Be sure to check out the links below.

QUESTIONS?

All inquiries can be directed to:

Mr. John Steffl, WZ9I at: radiow9hsy@gmail.com

The MARA 24 hour telephone voice mail number is: 608.245.8890

Check us out on the web
at http://www.bssts.org



*Yellow Thunder
Amateur Radio Club*

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)
N9JAS - Jane Steinweg, Secretary
1322 Silver Dr/ Baraboo 53913
Club net: Sundays 8:00 p.m. on 147.315



**Meeting Minutes
December 2, 2008**

The meeting was called to order by President Steve Schulze (N9UDO), at 7:30pm.

Although there was no formal meeting in November, due to a lack of a quorum, and therefore no formal minutes, the informal notes were distributed. No corrections or additions were made.

Treasurer Don Evenson (K9JYX) reported that our account balance is \$xxxx.66. There are no outstanding bills.

Correspondence:

1. YTARC received a certificate of participation from the National Weather Service in Sullivan.

2. We received a packet of weather information from NOAA which was passed around the table and will be kept in the YTARC files.

3. Gary Sorensen (W9ULK), presented possible guidelines for accepting weather spotter reports from local fire departments and county Sheriff's offices

4. Skywarn held an on-the-air spotter recognition day on Saturday, December 12, 2008.

5. Emergency Manager Conference power points are available at www.wema.gov.

6. The Wisconsin Non-profit forms were signed by the YTARC board members, and a check for \$10.00 will be included and mailed by Steve (N9UDO).

Old Business/New Business:

1. Several holiday party location options were presented and a vote was taken. By majority vote, the party will be at Steve's (N9UDO) home on January 10, 2009. Watch for details to follow by mail.

2. Discussions continued for a repeater linking project with Richland Center and Vernon County ARES/RACES. This linkage would potentially be available as need for disaster coverage, weather events, or other needs as they are identified. At this time, the discussion included a UHF system to link the VHF repeaters, equipment options (already available and needed), costs, and feasibility studies. Stay tuned for further discussions and updates.

3. D-Star discussions continued. Steve (N9UDO) is continuing to search for equipment, and will be re-applying for the VHF digital repeater frequencies. At this time it appears that the YTARC digital system will stand alone, with a gateway to follow somewhat later. Mike Kaufman (WB9SLI), from Richland Center, shared his DV-dongle experience with us.

4. The subject of 2009 meeting dates and times was brought to the table. Don Evenson (K9JYX) made a motion to continue with first Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. The motion was seconded by Jane Steinweg (N9JAS). The vote passed unanimously.

5. The 13th annual YTARC swap fest will be August 8, 2009. Details regarding location, posters, and other specifics will be announced in the months to come.

A motion to adjourn was made by Don (K9JYX), and seconded by Bob (W9MZ). The vote was unanimous.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 6, 2009 at 7:30pm.

In attendance:

N9UDO - Steve Schulze, President
K9JYX - Don Evenson, Treasurer
N9JAS - Jane Steinweg, Secretary
KB9CSW - Dave Spearing, member-at-large
KC9CVD - Bill Stehling
KA9PSL - Mike Hoier
W9MZ - Bob Naegele
WB9SLI - Mike Kaufman
KC9NJP - Tom Yager

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY

(Continued from page 4)

KB9R0B 0	18	6	8	32	
K9GU	0	0	26	0	26
W9UW	0	0	20	0	20
N1KSN	1	6	3	2	12
WB9ICH	0	10	2	0	12
W9PVD	0	0	1	0	1

December 2008

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KA9EKG	42	631	589	39	1301
K9LGU	0	38	51	1	90
AG9G	0	12	65	0	77
WD9FLJ	0	31	5	5	41
W9RTP	0	36	5	0	41
KB9ROB	0	20	7	9	36
KB9KEG	4	25	1	3	33
KB9KEG -NOV	3	21	0	3	27
W9UW	0	0	13	0	13
WB9ICH	0	10	2	12	12
N1KSN	2	2	2	2	8
W9PVD	0	0	1	0	1

HAMFEST 2009

Buy/Sell Amateur Radio Equipment, Electronics and Computer Gear

SUNDAY, March 15, 2009

8:00 AM until 1:00 PM

Free Parking! Admission: \$5.00 8' Table Space - \$6.00/ea (Reserve Early!)

Amateur Volunteer Exams (ARRL VEC – N9VE) start at 9:00 AM

Presented by: TRI COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - W9MQB

Talk-in on the 145.49 Repeater

JEFFERSON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

ACTIVITY CENTER

503 NORTH JACKSON AVE,

JEFFERSON, WI 53549

- Vendors will be admitted at 6:00 AM.
- General Admission and Sales begin at 8:00 AM.
- Vendors-only parking will be provided for unloading.
- Food and Beverages available.

194 West to Exit 267, (Jefferson) Head South on Hwy 26 approx 5 miles. At stoplight turn right onto W. Puerner Street and follow this directly into the Fairgrounds.

Next year's date: March 14, 2010

Hamfest Advanced Registration Form

RESERVATION DEADLINE: March 11, 2009

Admission: _____ X \$5.00 = \$ _____ Note: Table Reservation does not include Admission.

8' Tables: _____ X \$6.00 = \$ _____ Total Amount: \$ _____

Name: _____ Call Sign: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Reservations require that we receive your payment in advance. Please send payment & SASE to this address:

TCARC-Hamfest 2009, 213 Frederick Ave., Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

Phone: 920-563-6381

Email: hamfest@w9mqb.org Subject: Hamfest 2009

Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsسسs.org>

SWAPFESTS

<div><p>Congratulations 2008 Winner!</p><p>Patrick T Weeks, KB9ULT</p></div> <div><p>34th ANNUAL MIDWINTER SWAPFEST WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN SATURDAY JANUARY 09, 2010</p><p>Both sponsored by: THE WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC. P. O. BOX 1072 · MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201</p></div>	<p><i>HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!</i> MADISON SWAPFEST Mandt Community Center <i>APRIL 18, 2009</i> 400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton WI Doors open at 8 a.m. Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890 Swapfest Information Line. (608) 245-8890</p>	<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST 09 SATURDAY JULY 11, 2009 (Held every July) <i>American Legion Park</i> <i>Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</i> (414) 762-3235, Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102, South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail ryatex@aol.com</p>		
<p>Ozaukee Radio Club HAM RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST MAY 02 2009—SEPT. 12, 2009</p> <p>May 02, 2009. Spring Swapfest. Ozaukee Radio Club. http://www.ozaukeeradioclub.org Talk-In: 146.97 (PL 127.3). Contact: Tom Nawrot, AA9XK10335 North Grasslyn Road, Mequon, WI 53092 Phone: 262-242-1029 or 800-698-6087 Email: tnawrot@wi.rr.com. Circle B Recreation Center, State Hwy 60 & Ozaukee, Cty Hwy J, Cedarburg, WI</p>	<p>The Chicago FM Club presents RADIO EXPO 2009 SEPTEMBER , 12-13, 2009 Boone County Fairgrounds Rts. 76 and Business 20, Belvidere, Illinois Free parking • Amateur Exams • Talkin 146.16/76 Info Voice mail and FAX: (708) 457-0966 http://www.chicagofmclub.org 5127 N. Monterey Dr., Norridge IL 60706-3242</p>	<p>TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS HAMFEST 2009 March 15, 2009 YOUR SPRING FAVORITE ! www.cmdline.com/tcarc/ TCARC 213 Frederick St (920) 563-6381 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 Evenings</p>		
<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AUCTION Amateur Radio, Computers & Electronics Wed. OCT. 07, 2009, 6:00 p.m. <i>American Legion Post 434</i> <i>Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI</i> (414) 762-3235, Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 , South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail: ryatex@aol.com</p>	<p>Circus City Swapfest Sponsored by the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club August 8, 2009 • 7 am—Noon Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI</p> <table><tr><td>Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area</td><td>\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables</td></tr></table> <p>Steve Schulze, N9UDO • Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (606) 356-2313 • (608) 643-6908/643-6453 http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm,</p>	Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables	<p>The Milwaukee Repeater Club presents AMATEUR RADIO FEST 2008 NOVEMBER xx, 2009 5555 W, Good Hope Road, Milwaukee, WI Elks Lodge, Across from AES For more information, see: http://www.mrc91.org e-mail mrc@mrc91.org or call (414) 526-7011</p>
Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables			

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ELMER
by Rich Regent, K9GDF

